

[27th February 1928]

- A.—(a) The Government have no information.
 (b) No orders have been issued prohibiting the payment of travelling allowance to representatives of teacher-managers for attending the meetings of District Educational Councils.

Enquiry into the position of Catholic schools in the Presidency.

* 1532 Q.—MR. J. A. SALDANHA: With reference to the answer to my question No. 1068 answered on 2nd November 1927, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government have come to any, and if so what, conclusion in regard to the recommendations of the special officer appointed to enquire into the position of Catholic schools in the Presidency; and

(b) whether Government will be pleased to place the special officer's recommendations before the House or communicate them to the Catholic church authorities or Catholic associations or committees concerned for remarks?

A.—(a) The Government have not yet come to any conclusion.

(b) The Government are unable to publish the recommendations at present.

Teaching of subjects other than English in the vernacular of the locality.

* 1533 Q.—THE ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there is a proposal before the Government to teach all subjects other than English in the vernacular of the locality in the high school classes?

A.—There is no such proposal before Government. The Department of Public Instruction has already circularized that managers of schools are at liberty to choose either English or vernacular as the medium of instruction in Forms IV, V and VI of secondary schools. The department has, however, recommended that approximately half of the time devoted to instruction, including the periods devoted to the teaching of English, should be given to teaching through English and the other half through the vernacular.

Introduction of amending Bills to the Madras Local Boards Act and the Madras Elementary Education Act.

* 1534 Q.—MR. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether during the year 1928 any comprehensive amending Bills to the Madras Local Boards Act of 1920, and the Madras Elementary Education Act of 1920, will be introduced into the Council; and

(b) if so, the probable month when they will be introduced; and the general lines on which the amendments are drafted?

A.—(a) It is likely that the Bills to amend the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and the Madras Elementary Education Act, 1920, will be introduced in 1928.

27th February 1928]

(b) It is not possible to say in which month the Bills will be introduced. The lines of amendment of the Madras Local Boards Act cannot be published at this stage. The draft Bill in respect of the Elementary Education Act has been published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, but its introduction will be deferred till the views of the District Educational Councils and District Boards, which have been called for on the Bill, are received and considered by Government.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"With reference to the answer to clause (b) may I know whether the amending Bill in respect of the Madras Local Boards Act is ready?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"It is not yet ready."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATHI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Advisory Committee on Local Self-Government has been consulted in the matter of the amendment of the Local Boards Act?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"When the draft Bill is ready, it will be placed before the Committee."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATHI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know when the Bill will be ready?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I cannot say, Sir."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABAPATHI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if the Elementary Education Act does not concern the municipalities and, if so, why they have not been consulted?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Yes, it concerns the municipalities also and they will be also consulted."

Local Boards

Alleged deadlock in the administration of Kistna District Board.

* 1535 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that, on account of the 18 nominations recently made by Government to the Kistna District Board, a party of 24 members hostile to the President (Dr. Rao) has been formed in the said Board under the leadership of the Zamindar of Mirzapuram;

(b) whether it is a fact that on one and the same day the said 24 members elected the Zamindar of Mirzapuram as the Vice-President of the said Board and another set of members elected Mr. M. Bapineedu, M.Sc., as the Vice-President;

(c) whether the Government have cancelled the said two elections;

(d) whether the President and some members of the Board have represented to the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government that a party hostile to the President has been formed with 24 members as the 18 nominations have all been made from among the partisans of the Zamindar of Mirzapuram and that a deadlock has been created in the administration thereby; and